



Citizens Engaging in Government Oversight (CEGO) in Natural Resources Management

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Submitted by:
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Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome.
ASH-TECH	African Soil Hives Technology
CBOs	Community Based Organizations.
CDP	Capacity Development Plan
CEGO	Citizens Engaging in Government Oversight
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IEC	Information, Education and Communication.
IPRS	Implementing Partner Reporting System
LEAT	Lawyers' Environmental Action Team
MBOMIPA	Matumizi Bora ya Malihai Idodi na Pawaga
MJUMIKK	Mtandao wa Jumuiya ya Misituta Kanda ya Kitapilimwa
MUVIMA	Mufindi Vijana Kwa Maendeleo
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NRM	Natural Resources Management
NACOPHA	National Council of People with HIV and AIDS
REDET	Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania
OCA	Organizational Capacity Assessment
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
SAM	Social Accountability Monitoring
SPO	Senior Program Officer
TACOSODE	Tanzania Council for Social Development
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VLC	Village Land Council
VLUC	Village Land Use Council
VENRCs	Village Environmental and Natural Resources Committees
WCS	Wildlife Conservation Society
WMAs	Wildlife Management Areas
WWF	World Wide Fund for Nature

1.0 Executive Summary

This report describes the activities conducted in the second quarter of year two (2014/2015) of the *Citizens Engaging in Government Oversight in Natural Resources Management* (CEGO-NRM) Project. The CEGO project is implemented in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts in the Iringa Region.

In this reporting quarter Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) implemented some of the administrative, procurement, and technical activities including: training of villagers on Natural Resources Management (NRM) & Social Accountability and Monitoring (SAM; beekeeping; Organizational Capacity Assessment (OCA) of LEAT partner Community Based Organizations (CBOs); and following up and obtaining necessary approvals of the two project vehicles, among others.

In this reporting period 64 Village Natural Resources Committees (VNRCs), Village Land Councils (VLCs) and Village Land Use Committees (VLUCs) members from Nyololo Njiapanda village in Mufindi and Malinzanga village Iringa Rural districts were trained on NRM & SAM. This put them at the vanguard of championing sound management of natural resources at the village level. The trained committee members were equipped with NRM and SAM knowledge that will enable them to take part in overseeing the management of natural resources at the village level and hold accountable duty bearers who are charged with responsibility of managing and protecting natural resources at the village level. The trainings comprised of 29 participants from Nyololo Njiapanda village and 35 from Malinzanga village both men and female who were trained for 7 days. Of these 7 days 2 days were on natural resources governance and 5 days on SAM training.

LEAT also trained 150 villagers on NRM & SAM in the two project districts. The trained villagers were 75 participants drawn from Lugodalutali in Mufindi district and other 75 participants' from Tungamalenga in Iringa Rural district. The trained villagers were also equipped with NRM and SAM knowledge, which it is hoped they will use to improve their management of natural resources in their respective villages and demand accountability from government officials mandated to oversee natural resources.

In this reporting period, LEAT received capacity building training from Pamoja Twajenga on how to organize and conduct OCA to CBOs in Mufindi i.e., Africa Soil Hives Technology (ASH-TECH) and Mufindi Vijana kwa Maendeleo (MUVIMA) and Iringa Rural districts (Matumizi Bora ya Malihai Idodi na Pawaga (MBOMIPA) and Mtandao wa Jumuiya ya Watunza Misitua Kanda ya Kitapilimwa (MJUMIKK)). The training imparted knowledge to LEAT's Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) Officer, Field Officers, and Program Accountant on how to conduct OCA on partner CBOs. Thereafter, the trained LEAT staffs, under the mentoring support from Pamoja Twajenga, conducted OCA on partner CBOs in Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts and came up with the Capacity Development Plan (CDP) with clearly defined gaps of LEAT partners CBOs and what should be done to fill those gaps.

LEAT and CBO members also received capacity building training from an expert consultant on beekeeping activities. The training was aimed at introducing LEAT staffs and its implementing partners on the concept of beekeeping and practical issues related to beekeeping and bee products. Through this capacity building training LEAT and CBOs members, in collaboration with the District Beekeeping Officers, organized and conducted

beekeeping trainings to selected beekeeping groups in Igombavanu and Lugodalutali villages in Mufindi districts as well as in Kiwere and Fiume villages in Iringa Rural district.

Moreover, LEAT's project procurement, finance and administrative teams, under the supervision of the board of directors, finalized the process of identifying the supplier of the two project vehicles and sent the selected quotes to USAID for approval. Upon going through LEAT's quotes and explanations on the proposed supplier, USAID gave LEAT a go ahead and immediately embarked into the process of obtaining Value Added Tax (VAT) exemptions as equipment and services purchased using the USAID's grant are not subject to VAT. Tax exemptions are being processed and LEAT expects to finalize the procurement process of the project vehicles in the next reporting quarter.

1.1 Project overview

This project is implemented in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts in Iringa region. These districts were selected because they have Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), wildlife resources, forests, and protected areas. The criteria of choosing these areas included: the network LEAT has established in the districts which serve as entry points; the organization's past experience in working on natural resources management related legal issues; and the trainings on public expenditure and tracking surveys conducted in Wami-Mbiki, Idodi, and Pawaga wards.

Under the project, LEAT uses SAM as an empowering and enabling tool to the citizens in the project districts to monitor how public institutions, tasked with the management of public resources, spend and manage those resources for and on behalf of the public. Exercising this role will entail capacity building to LEAT staff members who will form the project implementation and management team. In order to build a critical mass of empowered citizens at the village level, the project implementation team will train 32 people working for CBOs; 28 members from the district natural resources committees; 700 people randomly selected from villages to be trained on beekeeping; 1,500 members from Village Environmental and Natural Resources Committees (VENRCs) and 3, 000 villagers (both men and women).

The project intends to meet the following objectives:

- To advocate for proper management of natural resources in order to reduce poverty and ensure sustainable conservation of biodiversity;
- To inculcate a culture of public participation in matters related to natural resources conservation and management;
- To increase community capacity in holding accountable government institutions entrusted with the duty to conserve and manage natural resources;
- To promote effective enforcement and implementation of laws and policies that integrate natural resources and climate change as indispensable tools for attaining good governance and sustainable management of natural resources; and
- To build capacity to individuals in social accountability monitoring in order to enable them actively perform an oversight role over management of public resources.

1.2 Project goal and results

1.2.1 Project goal

CEGO aims to improve Citizens' capacity in engaging in government oversight on natural resources management.

1.2.2 Intermediate results:

Project Intermediate Result 1: Increased citizens awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward, and village levels.

Project Intermediate Result 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forests and wildlife enhanced.

2.0 Project implementation progress

The following project activities were implemented in this reporting period.

2.1 Administrative activities and training

2.1.1 Procurement of project equipment

During this period LEAT's finance, procurement, and administration teams on the one hand and the Board of Directors on the other finalized the process of identifying the supplier of two project vehicles in line with LEAT's Procurement Policy. The Board of Directors chose the supplier after reviewing the Requests for Quotations (RFQs) from four vehicle suppliers in Tanzania.

LEAT initiated the VAT exemption process on the purchase of the two vehicle to be procured, the process which is yet to be finalized. LEAT expects to finalize the procurement process of the project vehicles within the next reporting period.

2.1.2 Sub-grant management training workshop

LEAT was invited by Pamoja Twajenga to attend a three-day training workshop on sub-grant management. The workshop was conducted at Regency Hotel from February 4 to 6, 2015. Apart from LEAT other USAID's grantees namely: TACOSODE, PELUM, and NACOPHA also attended the workshop.

The workshop was aimed at equipping the four organizations' grant managers, program accountants and program officers with the knowledge on how to manage project funds including sub-grants. It was also intended to inform them of USAID's sub-grant rules and regulations and making sure that they comply with them fully. The compliance requirements also apply to their sub-grantees and they are thus required to ensure that all sub-grantees abide with them.

The training was very useful to LEAT since it enlightened its staffs on sub-grant related issues including allocable and allowable costs. LEAT will use the knowledge acquired to properly manage sub-grants to its partner CBOs.

2.1.3 Advertisement, short listing, and conducting interview for the vacancy of Senior Program Officer

In this reporting period LEAT advertised, shortlisted and conducted interviews to the applicants for the position of Senior Program Officer which was left vacant after the resignation of Dr. Naima Abdallah Besta who held that position for 10 months. The advertisement was prepared and circulated to the local newspaper (The Guardian) for the post to be advertised. Afterwards the applicants were shortlisted by the board of directors and finally the recruitment committee held the interview. The name of the successful candidate was sent to USAID for approval. Few days after LEAT received the approval from USAID the chosen candidate declined the offer because he had already taken another position at the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The Board of Directors decided to extend the offer to the person who came second during the interview and his name will be submitted to USAID for approval.

2.1.4 Learning meeting on monitoring and evaluation of the project

LEAT was invited to attend the learning meeting of M&E of the project organized by Pamoja Twajenga at My Fair Hotel on January 28, 2015. The meeting was aimed at bringing together USAID partners both CSOs and IOAs to share baseline survey reports and the proper way of monitoring projects. The meeting enabled the participants from PELUM, NACOPHA, TACOSODE and LEAT to present their baseline findings, which among others revealed the challenges encountered while collecting baseline data.

LEAT presented the challenges encountered while collecting baseline data including the remoteness of the areas and the language barrier to mention but few.

The participants agreed to form a joint forum upon which all M&E officers from CSOs and IOAs will be discussing and exchanging ideas and experiences on M&E related issues.

2.1.5 Communication workshop: developing strategic communications plans

LEAT also took part in the training workshop on how to develop strategic communication plans; the training was organized and conducted by Pamoja Twajenga on January 19th 2015 at Pamoja Twajenga Office. The training aimed at raising the understanding of Communications Officers on the importance of strategic communications, communications planning steps, the application of communication planning steps in their organizations, how an organization can review and select the appropriate communication tools, and prioritizing communications assistance needs.

Thereafter LEAT's Communication Officer used the knowledge gained to improve the Draft CEGO-NRM Communication Strategy resulting into the second draft of the Communication Strategy, which will be submitted for review to Pamoja Twajenga in the next quarter.

2.1.6 USAID partners meeting on development objective 3 (DO3)

LEAT was invited by USAID to attend the discussion meeting on Development Objective 3 as one of the three objectives, executed by the USAID in Tanzania. The meeting was conducted at the US Embassy in Dar es Salaam and was attended by USAID staffs working in

Tanzania and Washington, USAID partners namely: Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM), National Council of People with HIV and AIDS (NACOPHA), Tanzania Council for Social Development (TACOSODE), Research and Education for Democracy in Tanzania (REDET) to mention but a few.

The meeting was aimed at presenting and discussing Development Objective 3, which focuses in improving effective democratic governance. It was aimed at presenting the Intermediate Results (IRs) developed for this objective as well as deliberating on the mechanisms put in place to achieve this objective.

The three IRs developed for this objective are: 3.1 Citizens engagement made more effective, 3.2. Government Delivery of Services Improved, and 3.3 Government Accountability Increased. LEAT and other CEGO-CSOs are working towards the realization of the IR 3.1 but they indirectly work towards the achievement of other IRs.

The meeting informed partners on the strategies that will be used to achieve the objective the main strategy being partnering with local CSOs in the implementation of the CEGO project. The partnership will be the course of trainings and engagement of citizens in demanding accountability from government officials on issues relating to management of natural resources, improved health services, and agriculture sector.

2.1.7 M&E training meeting on data use

LEAT was invited by Pamoja Twajenga to attend a one-day meeting on the quality and importance of using data in the preparing successful stories. The meeting was conducted at Regency Hotel Mikocheni on March 19th, 2015 and was attended by USAID grantees working under the supervision of Pamoja Twajenga. The main presenter was Ms. Peggy from Chemonics international.

The meeting introduced the participants to the importance and usefulness of data, concept of data, quality data, data collection methodology, how to prepare a success story using quality data and the viability of data.

The training was very informative and educative and enabled the participants in small groups to develop a success story using out of the data in the provided extract.

Table 1: January –March 31, 2015 Milestones

<i>1.1 Administration</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Process of identifying and approval of supplier of project vehicles finalized ➤ The advertisement, short listing and interview of Senior Program Officer candidates

2.2 Planned activities for the next quarter (April 1- June 30, 2015)

The Team project will do the following activities in the next quarter: finalize the process of obtaining necessary exemptions and approvals for the procurement of project vehicles, and recruitment of Senior Program Officer.

2.3. Technical activities

This part describes technical activities implemented under the project in the second quarter from January 1 to March 31, 2015. It briefly documents the project intermediate results, the main activities, and sub-activities implemented under each intermediate results.

IR1: Increased citizens awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward, and village levels

Under this Project Intermediate Result, LEAT implemented the following activities:

Activity 1.1 Capacity building on NRM and governance to ward representatives, village natural resources committees (VNRCs), village land use councils (VLUCs), village land councils (VLCs) and villagers in the two project districts

Under this main activity the following sub-activities were implemented:

Activity 1.1.1 Training of VNRCs, VLCs, VLUCs, and ward representatives on NRM and governance of two villages

In January 2015 LEAT, in partnership with CBO members, organized and conducted NRM trainings to the members of the village natural resources committees (VNRCs) of Nyololo Njiapanda Village in Mufindi district and Malinzanga Village in Iringa Rural district respectively. The trainings were aimed at imparting them with essential NRM knowledge as they are the ones who have mandate of overseeing the conservation and management of village natural resources at the village level.

64 VNRCs members were trained on NRM. Out of these 29 members (19 males and 10 being females) in Mufindi district while 35 participants (25 males and 10 females) in Iringa Rural district.

The trained VNRCs members are expected to disseminate the acquired knowledge to their fellow villagers during village assembly and village council meetings. The CBOs and village champions will track the change through the designed outcome-mapping tool.

The knowledge imparted and the changes, at the village level.

Activity 1.1.2 Training of villagers on NRM and governance

In this reporting quarter, LEAT provided capacity building trainings to villagers on NRM in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts.

In February, 2015 LEAT in partnership with the four partner CBOs i.e. MJUMIKIK, MBOMIPA, ASH-TECH, and MUVIMA organized and conducted capacity building training to two villages one in each district. The villages are Lugodalutali village in Mufindi district and Tungamalenga in Iringa Rural district. The training was aimed at imparting natural resources management knowledge to ordinary villagers who are not part of the village government leadership but bound to or are engaging in the management of forest and wildlife resources in their respective villages.

In Lugodalutal village 75 villagers were trained (34 males and 41 females) while a similar number of villagers were trained in Tungamalenga (33 males and 42 females). Thus, 150 villagers received NRM trainings in the two villages. LEAT will continue training villagers on NRM and governance in the remaining villages in the next reporting quarters.

Activity 1.2 Establishment of alternative income generating activities (IGAs) in two districts:

Activity 1.2.2 Preparation of the training manual on beekeeping

LEAT consulted Mufindi and Iringa Rural district councils and Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) on the existing training manual on beekeeping in order to update the same on legal and natural resources management aspects. Upon inquiries, LEAT received two copies of training manual on beekeeping, one from Mufindi District Beekeeping Officer and the second one from the beekeeping expert in Iringa Rural district.

LEAT reviewed the existing manuals and came up with an updated Training Manual on beekeeping activities containing six chapters. The Manual contains chapters on the concept of beekeeping and its importance to human being and natural resources, important tools for beekeeping, beekeeping calendar and threats or challenges associated with beekeeping activities; and the legal aspects of beekeeping in Tanzania.

The Manual is undergoing review and will be shared with Pamoja Twajenga for technical inputs before being subjected to stakeholders' review. It will later on be submitted to USAID for approval before being printed. This manual will be used as a guiding tool to train beekeeping groups on beekeeping activities for the remaining project years.

Activity 1.2.5 Identification and registration of beekeeping groups

Partner CBOs and LEAT started the identification and registration of beekeeping groups in 4 villages two in each project district. The villages are Lugodalutali and Igombavanu in Mufindi district and Kiwere and Mfyome in Iringa rural district the activity will proceed for the remaining village in the next quarter.

The partner CBOs and LEAT prepared terms of reference and registration forms, which were provided to village government leaders for the recruitment of beekeeping group members. The recruitment forms are meant to capture the age of the applicant, the level of poverty in his/her household, his/her experience on beekeeping, the status of his/her body condition (whether he/she is disabled or not). This was purposely designed to bring on board different villagers in beekeeping activity including those who would otherwise engage in illegal logging and charcoal burning. Each beekeeping group is comprised of 22 villagers, which will later on be provided with 22 beehives after being trained on beekeeping activities.

The partner CBOs are going on with identification of beekeeping groups in the remaining villages namely: Tambalang'ombe, Mapogoro, Utosi, Uhambila, Kibada, and Nyololo Njiapanda in Mufindi district as well as Idodi, Tungamalenga, Kitisi, Itagutwa, Kitapilimwa, and Malinzanga in Iringa Rural district. The process will be finalized in the next reporting period. The identified groups will be legally registered at the district level by the Community Development Departments.

Activity 1.2.6 Training of selected groups on beekeeping

On March 23 to 28, 2015 District Beekeeping Officers and partner CBO members conducted beekeeping trainings in Lugodalutali and Igombavanu in Mufindi district and Kiwere and Mfyome in Iringa Rural district. The trainings were aimed at imparting beekeeping knowledge both theoretical and practical to selected beekeeping group members so that they can actively and productively engage in beekeeping activities.

Four beekeeping groups were trained in the two districts comprising 29 male and 18 female participants in Mufindi district and 24 males and 20 females in Iringa Rural district. Thus a total of 91 selected beekeepers were trained in the two districts.

After the training a group of women in Lugodalutali village in Mufindi district were inspired and decided to form their own group of beekeeping and requested the District Beekeeping Officer to register their group. These women have already submitted their constitution to the District Council for registration.

Partner CBOs will continue with training of selected beekeeping groups in the remaining villages in the next reporting quarter.

Activity 1.2.8 Procurement of beekeeping materials

In this reporting period LEAT planned to procure beekeeping materials namely: 350 beehives, 40 protective gears and 40 gloves and disseminate these materials to selected beekeeping groups. Originally LEAT planned to purchase 40 smokers but it will no longer do so due to their adverse impact on the honey's quality.

LEAT prepared a tender advertisement to solicit qualified suppliers of beehives to offer their supply bids. LEAT expects to complete the tender process in the next reporting quarter.

Activity 1.3 Awareness creation on natural resources management and governance through information, education, and communication (IEC) Materials

Under this main activity LEAT implemented the following sub-activities:

Activity 1.3.1 Finalizing the communication strategy

LEAT planned to finalize preparation of Communication Strategy and submit the same to Pamoja Twajenga for technical inputs. In this reporting period, LEAT Communication Officer developed the second draft of the communication strategy after receiving capacity building training on January 19 2015 from Pamoja Twajenga which equipped her with the knowledge on how to develop communication strategies, understanding strategic communications, understanding the steps for communications planning, enabling participants to apply these steps in their organizations, enable participants to review and select the appropriate communication tools as well as discussing priority assistance needs. The final Draft of the Communication Strategy will be finalized in the next quarter.

Activity 1.3.2 Preparation and printing of information, education, and communication (IEC) materials

LEAT was supposed to prepare and print the IEC materials as follows:

- **Brochures for SAM, NRM, and CEGO Project:** LEAT prepared all these brochures and they were subjected to a number of reviews including compliance with LEAT's branding and marking plan. LEAT expects to that the final version will be sent to USAID for approval in the next quarter;
- **Posters:** With the help from Pamoja Twajenga LEAT designed posters equipped with SAM and NRM themes, these posters went through several reviews. Pamoja Twajenga has certified them and will be sent to USAID for review and approval together with the brochures;
- **One Pager Profile:** With the help from Pamoja Twajenga LEAT designed a one-pager profile. It has undergone several reviews and has now been certified by Pamoja Twajenga for LEAT's final submission to USAID for approval;
- **Banners:** LEAT designed banners containing SAM messages and they were reviewed and approved by Pamoja Twajenga and will be sent to USAID for approval in the coming quarter;
- **Articles:** No articles were developed in this quarter;
- **Stickers:** LEAT received advice from Pamoja Twajenga's Communications Officer that instead of LEAT branding the beehives with the stickers it will be to print posters naming the field/apiary. With this advice LEAT postponed the implementation of this activity until when the selected beekeeping groups are identified, named, and registered, as well as when the apiaries have been selected; and
- **T-shirts:** LEAT identified the supplier to print the additional T-shirts for CEGO projects. This activity will be finalized in the coming quarter upon receiving the USAID's approval on the compliance with marking and branding requirements.

Activity 1.3.4 Update online website and social media outlets

LEAT continued to update and maintain online website and social media outlets by making sure that all necessary information relating to the project and LEAT is being posted on LEAT face book page *Lawyers' Environmental Action Team/Facebook* and blog *mazingira-leat.blogspot.com*. Information posted for this quarter include: photos on training of LEAT staff on beekeeping; training of Environmental and NRM committees members on NRM and SAM in Nyololo Njiapanda and Malinzanga Villages; photos on training of villagers on NRM and SAM as well as training of selected beekeeping groups on beekeeping.

Activity 1.3.5 Producing NRM and SAM songs and drama

In this reporting period, LEAT planned to produce NRM and SAM songs and drama by training selected theatre groups on NRM and SAM to enable them produce stories, heroic recitation, drama, songs and dances that contain NRM and SAM messages/themes. LEAT, through ward and village leaders, identified theatre groups that will be trained in Igombavanu ward in Mufindi district and Kiwere ward in Iringa Rural district. The process of identifying the consultant to provide capacity building training to these groups has also started whereas the quotations from different consultants have been collected. Thereafter the consultant will be selected and

will conduct the training in the next reporting period. The NRM and SAM songs and drama will production process will be carried out in the fourth quarter.

IR 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forests and wildlife Improved

Under this Project Intermediate Result, LEAT implemented the following activities:

Activity 2.1 Capacity building to Citizens on Social Accountability Monitoring (SAM) to Wards, VNRC, VLUC, and VLC in the two project districts

Under this main activity, LEAT implemented only two activities namely: Training of VNRCs, VLCs, VLUC, and ward representatives on SAM; and training of villagers on SAM as explained here below.

Activity 2.1.1 Training of VNRCs, VLCs, VLUCs, and ward representatives on SAM

In January 2015 LEAT, in partnership with CBO members, organized and conducted SAM trainings to Village Environmental/Natural Resources Committee (VENRC) members in Nyololo Njiapanda Village in Mufindi district and Malinzanga Village in Iringa rural district. The trainings aimed at imparting SAM knowledge to the VENRCs members who are legally charged with the mandate of overseeing the conservation of natural resources in these two villages. The trainings sought to also empower VENRCs members with requisite skills and tactics of holding accountable village and district leaders in managing village and district natural resources respectively.

64 participants were trained on SAM i.e., 29 members (19 males and 10 females) in Mufindi district and 35 participants (25 males and 10 females) in Iringa Rural district.

The trained committee members are also expected to disseminate the acquired knowledge, skills and tactics to their fellow villagers during village assembly and village council meetings. Partner CBOs and village champions will use the knowledge gained to track the changes at the village level via the designed outcome-mapping tool.

Activity 2.1.2 Training of villagers on SAM

In February 2015 LEAT, in partnership with partner CBOs conducted capacity building trainings on SAM in Lugodalutali village in Mufindi district and Tungamalenga village in Iringa Rural district. The trainings imparted SAM knowledge to ordinary villagers who are not part of the village government leadership but are duty bound to actively engage in management of forest and wildlife in their respective villages. They are also required to hold duty bearers accountable in the management and protection of village natural resources.

150 villagers (75 villagers in each village) were trained on SAM and NRM. LEAT will continue with SAM trainings to villagers in the remaining villages in the next and other quarters.

It is important to note that training on SAM and its implementation are infused with sharing the findings by SAM teams. However, SAM findings stand to implicate some of the

stakeholders who may take defensive and frustrating postures. Consequently, LEAT decided to hold on to these findings (for year one and two) until it completes the trainings and will start sharing them from June 2015.

Table 2: January 1-March 31, 2015 Milestones

<i>1.1. Technical Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 150 villagers (67 males and 83 females) were trained on NRM and SAM in two villages in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts; ➤ 64 members of VENRCs of Lugodalutali village in Mufindi and Tungamalenga village in Iringa Rural districts were trained on both NRM and SAM. They include 44 males and 20 females. ➤ 91 selected beekeepers (53 males and 38 females who also formed 4 beekeeping groups in Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts) were trained on beekeeping activities; ➤ A draft of simplified version of training manual on beekeeping was updated and now includes beekeeping policy and legal aspects; and ➤ The second draft of Communication Strategy prepared and is currently under review.

3.0 Monitoring and follow up of project activities

3.1 Operationalized M&E plan

The following sub-activities were implemented under this main activity.

3.1.1. Develop/Adopt M&E tool

LEAT has adopted the most significant change and outcome-mapping tool developed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). The tool is found on IDRC's website <http://www.idrc.ca> which will be used to monitor the outcome and the impact of the project. LEAT partner CBOs will also use this tool as they have been trained on how to apply it and capture the project progress in the field. The training was conducted by LEAT M&E with assistance from Pamoja Twajenga M&E specialist.

Moreover, LEAT will select the village project champions, among the trained villagers, who will be trained on how to use the most significant change tool enabling them to capture the project progress and results. The captured outcomes will be used in the reporting and sharing success stories on NRM and SAM respectively. The champions will be under a close supervision of the partner CBOs.

Not only that Field Officers and District Beekeeping Officers, in collaboration with partner CBOs and village project champions, will also track the project outcome through the developed outcome mapping tool and share success stories to LEAT.

LEAT will develop other project tracking tools including on site tool, beekeepers capturing tool, a tool capturing citizens who asks questions; and the tool capturing citizens who are applying the acquired knowledge by taking correct actions.

3.1.4 Conduct needs assessment of partner CBOs

In this quarter, LEAT with the support from Pamoja Twajenga conducted organizational needs assessment of partner CBOs (MJUMIKK and MBOMIPA in Iringa Rural district and ASH-TECH and MUVIMA in Mufindi district) in February 2015. This activity was aimed at identifying partner CBOs' capacities gaps and ascertain the means of bridging the identified gaps. Members of CBOs participated fully during this exercise and gave positive feedback on the importance and the potential of this exercise that was aimed at increasing the organizational capacity and performance.

One of the identified gaps in the partner CBOs is the absence of oversight field tracking tools to conduct field oversight, which are necessary in tracking project progress. LEAT with assistance from Pamoja Twajenga will provide technical assistance to address some of the identified gaps in the next quarter.

3.1.5 CBOs and field officers training on monitoring and evaluation

In this reporting period, LEAT with support from Pamoja Twajenga trained 2 Field Officers and 33 CBO officers on Monitoring and Evaluation. 6 out of the 33 participants were females and the rest were men. The participants were from 4 CBOs namely Mufindi Vijana kwa Maendeleo (MUVIMA), African Soil Hives Technology (ASHTECH), Mtandao wa Jumuiya ya Misitani Kanda ya Kitapilimwa (MJUMIKK) and Matumizi Bora ya Malihai Idodi na Pawaga (MBOMIPA). The training package included group discussions, presentation of general concept of monitoring and evaluation, data collection process and data qualities, review of LEAT year two work plan and M&E plan aimed at increasing their level of understanding of CEGO-NRM activities and the intended deliverables.

At the end of the training, the participants requested LEAT to continue offering capacity building trainings on M&E related issues so as to improve their organizational management and performance. The M&E Officer will continue providing necessary assistance needed to partner CBOs and the Field Officers.

3.2. Supportive supervision

Only one sub-activity was implemented under this main activity as explained below.

3.2.2. Provide backstopping and technical assistance to partner CBOs and Field Officers

LEAT planned to provide backstopping and technical assistance to CBOs and Field Officers in the last quarter but this same was not conducted because the CBOs staff and Field Officers were not yet trained on M&E. LEAT has already trained CBO members and Filed Officers on M&E as reported under activity 3.1 5 above, therefore technical backstopping will be provided to CBOs and Field Officers for the rest of the project period beginning next quarter.

3.3 Monitoring the project impact

LEAT implemented the following sub-activities under this main activity:

3.3.1. Follow up and monitoring activities

In this reporting period LEAT organized and conducted follow up and monitoring of project activities particularly during the process of selecting beekeeping groups in the project areas both in Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts. This was aimed at making sure that the planned process of selecting beekeeping groups was done in accordance with the prescribed procedures.

3.3.3. Project progress reporting and web based data entry.

The first quarter project activity progress report of year two was prepared and shared with Pamoja Twajenga for technical inputs. It was later submitted to USAID through Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) by email on 30th, January 2015 for approval. The report was duly approved by USAID. Also the M&E officer filled relevant project data such as the project target and target reached for the last year in the USAID web based data reporting system known as Implementing Partner Reporting System (IPRS).

Table 3: January 1- March 31, 2015 Milestones

<i>1.1. Monitoring Activities</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 35 participants trained on M&E i.e., 33 CBOs members and 2 LEAT Field Officers; and➤ Outcome mapping tool developed and operationalized.

4.0 Strengthen LEAT capacity in organizational development and advocacy

4.1 Strengthen LEAT capacity in organizational development and advocacy

The following sub-activities were implemented under the above main activity as reported here below:

4.1.1 Strengthen LEAT's capacity in organization development

Under this activity 7 LEAT staffs and 8 CBO members two from each CBO were trained on beekeeping activities. LEAT hired an expert consultant in Iringa district to offer capacity building training for five days from February 2 to February 6 2015 at Gentle Hills Hotel.

The purpose of training was to equip LEAT project staff and its partner CBOs with technical abilities for conducting and coordinating beekeeping projects in the respective project villages within Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts.

The training was both theoretical and practical where the consultant imparted them with knowledge on the concept on beekeeping, beekeeping calendar, types of bees and their importance to the community, honey and honey harvesting and the relevant policies on beekeeping sector in Tanzania. Also the trainees went to the apiary for practical training where the participants observed the beehives with bees and how to handle the hive without disturbing the bees. It was an educative and informative training, which enabled LEAT staffs to prepare the training manual on beekeeping. Other capacity development programs will be conducted in the next reporting quarter with Pamoja Twajenga support.

4.2. Strengthen CBOs' capacity in organization development and advocacy

Under this main activity, LEAT implemented the following sub-activities

4.2.1 Build the Capacity of LEAT to conduct OCA on partner CBOs

Pamoja Twajenga through Organizational Capacity Assessment program offered capacity building training to USAID partners including LEAT staffs on how to organize and conduct OCA to sub-grantees and partners and identification of capacity gaps to be addressed by the implementing CSOs to their sub grantees and partners. .

Four LEAT staffs namely: M&E Officer, two Field Officers, and the Program Accountant attended and benefited from this important two days training which was conducted in February, 2015 at Regency Hotel Mikocheni. The training covered with the general concept of OCA, the process of OCA and the tools used during OCA process. The trainers also taught the participants on how to prepare the capacity development plans.

With this training LEAT staffs were able to organize and conduct OCA of partner CBOs in Mufindi and Iringa Rural districts and identified capacity gaps that need to be addressed.

4.2.2 Conduct OCA of partner CBOs

LEAT staffs under the support from Pamoja Twajenga organized and conducted OCA to CBOs of MBOMIPA and MJUMIKK in Iringa Rural and MUVIMA and ASH-TECH in Mufindi districts for four weeks, one week for each CBO from February 10 to March 6, 2015. The assessment was based on seven key areas namely: Financial Management, Project Management, Program Management, Organizational Management, Administration, Human Resources and Governance. As a result of the activity an organizational Capacity Development Plan (CDP) was developed indicating the identified weaknesses/challenges and strengths and actions towards overcoming the challenges. Moreover snap shot reports were developed and they are in final stages of review by Pamoja Twajenga before LEAT finalizes and submits them to USAID. LEAT in collaboration with Pamoja Twajenga will use the OCA Reports to build CBOs capacities in all areas that require improvement.

Table 4: January 1-March, 31, 2015 Milestones

<i>1.1. Capacity in Organizational development and Advocacy activities.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ 7 LEAT staffs and 8 CBO members trained on beekeeping as means of building their capacities in implementing and coordinating beekeeping activities.➤ 4 LEAT staffs received capacity building training on how to conduct OCA on CBOs.➤ Organizational Capacity Assessment conducted to 4 CBOs where 2 are in Mufindi district and 2 are in Iringa Rural district.

5.0 Course corrections and lessons learned

- LEAT learnt that given the required number of days to be spent to train villagers on NRM and SAM, it was unrealistic to meet the target of 4,160 villagers for the entire project period. Thus LEAT submitted a request to the AOR to reduce the target to

3000. The permission was duly granted and therefore LEAT will cover only 3000 villagers in both NRM and SAM trainings;

- LEAT learnt that beekeeping activities should be done in accordance with the beekeeping calendar. After capacity building training to LEAT staffs and CBOs on beekeeping, it was discovered that LEAT could not plant beehives in this reporting quarter since it was not the right time. LEAT will therefore plant/place beehives in the apiary between July and September which it is the appropriate time; and
- LEAT learnt that implementing the project within two regions for four years is not sustainable and the project impacts could not easily be observed. It was thus advised by LEAT Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) to concentrate in one region i.e. Iringa and in the two districts for the entire project period.

6.0 Activities planned to be conducted this quarter but not implemented

The following activities were not implemented under this reporting quarter:

1.1.3 Stakeholder Meeting to review the training manual on beekeeping

This activity was not implemented since the training manual on beekeeping is under review. The meeting will be held to review the manual in the next reporting quarter.

1.2.4 Publication and dissemination of training manual on beekeeping

The training manual was not printed since it is not yet finalized. The printing of the manual will be done once it is reviewed by Pamoja Twajenga and approved by USAID.

7.0 Activities to be undertaken in the next quarter

The planned activities for the next quarter are continuing activities, which LEAT began to implement them in the last quarter and will continue implementing in the following reporting quarters. In the next quarter LEAT intends to implement the following activities (April 1 to June 30, 2015):

PIR 1: Increased citizen awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward and village level.

Activity 1.1 Capacity building on NRM and governance to Ward representatives, VNRC, VLUC, VLC and villagers in two districts

1.1.3 Training of villagers on NRM and governance

Activity 1.2 Establishment of alternative income generating activities (IGA) in the two project districts

- 1.2.1 Finalization of training manual on beekeeping;
- 1.2.3 Stakeholders meeting/workshop to review training manual on beekeeping;
- 1.2.4 Publication and dissemination of the Training Manual on beekeeping;
- 1.2.5 Identification and registration of beekeeping groups;
- 1.2.6 Training of selected groups on beekeeping; and
- 1.2.8 Procurement of beehives and beekeeping materials

Activity 1.3 Awareness creation on natural resources management and governance through information, education, and communication (IEC) materials

- 1.3.1 Finalize the Communication Strategy
- 1.3.2 Produce and disseminate newspaper featured articles, USAID stickers, brochures, one pager profile, Roll up banners, posters and activity calendar;
- 1.3.3 Preparation of Project Documentary;
- 1.3.4 Update online website and social media outlets;
- 1.3.5 Produce NRM and SAM songs and Drama; and
- 1.3.6 Document success stories

PIR 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forests and wildlife Improved

Activity 2.1 Capacity building to citizens on social accountability monitoring (SAM) to Wards, VNRC, VLUC, and VLC in the two project districts

- 2.1.2 Training of villagers on SAM;
- 2.1.3 Supporting SAM team to undertake SAM exercises and reviewing SAM Team's findings report;
- 3.0 Monitoring and follow up of project activities; and
- 3.1.6 Training of LEAT staff on mid-term project evaluation.

Activity 3. 2 Supportive supervision

- 3.2.1 Supportive supervision to partner CBOs; and
- 3.2.3 M&E meeting with Pamoja Twajenga

Activity 3.3 Monitor the project impact.

- 3.3.1 Follow up and monitoring visit in Iringa Rural and Mufindi districts; and
- 3.3.2 Project progress reporting and web based data entry.

Activity 4.1 Strengthen LEAT capacity in organizational development and advocacy

- 4.1.1 Strengthen LEAT's capacity in organization development; and
- 4.1.3 Internal coaching and backstopping to the project facilitation team.

Activity 4.2 Strengthen CBOs' capacity in organization development and advocacy

- 4.2.4 Consolidate findings and develop capacity building plans;
- 4.2.5 Build capacity of LEAT to conduct advocacy assessment of partner CBOs;
- 4.2.6 Conduct advocacy assessment on partner CBOs; and
- 4.2.7 Strengthen partner CBOs' capacity in organization development.

8.0 Challenges encountered in the second quarter and actions taken

LEAT encountered the following challenges in the second quarter of project implementation:

- Budget constraints in implementing the project activities, which forced LEAT to reallocate the initially allocated budget in order to cover all the planned activities. Initially LEAT planned to provide training for 3 days and that is what was reflected in the project approved budget. However, LEAT was advised that SAM training should be conducted for not less than five days. This necessitated the adjustment of the budget for year two and assigned less time for certain activities than originally planned; and
- Delay in the procurement of project vehicles due to a long and protracted tax exemption obtaining procedure, which has delayed the purchase of the project vehicles.

ANNEXES

Annex I: Indicator progress

USAID Standard Indicators and Custom Indicators

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:												
INTERMEDIATE RESULTS / SUB-IR	INDICATOR	Data Source	Baseline data		FY 2015		Quarterly Status FY 2014/2015				Performance Achievement (%) for reporting period	Comment(s)
			Year	Value	Annual Cumulative Planned target	Annual Cumulative Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
standard	Number of training days provided to executive branch personnel with USG assistance	Signed attendance sheet, training curriculum	2014	0	250	68	0	68	0	0	27.2%	
standard	2.2.3-5 Number of sub-national entities receiving USG	Interview, Pre and Post questions and	2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	

		assistance that improve their performance	Attendance sign sheets.										
	standard	Number of people with increased economic benefits derived from sustainable natural resources management and conservation as a result of USG assistance (SO 13, indicator 4.8.1-6)	Program data /groups reports	2014	0	1400	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	
	standard	Number of person hours of training in natural resources management and/or biodiversity conservation supported by USG assistance (SO 13,	Participant list	2014	0	1,800,000	46,511	0	46,511	0	0	2.58%	

	indicator 4.8.1 - 29)												
	IR 1: Citizens and duty bearers awareness on proper management of forests and wildlife resources at district, ward, and village levels increased												
	custom	Number of Citizens trained and with increased knowledge on management of forest and wildlife resources as a result of USG assistance	Signed attendance sheet/pre and post- test training scores.	2014	0	1550	355	0	355	0	0	22.9%	
	KRA 1.1 LEAT capacity in all organizational development categories (OCA and AAT) improved												
	custom	Average score of organizational development categories	Document review	2014	2.6	3.0	0	0	0	0	0		
	KRA 1.2: Households implementing alternative income generating activities increased												
	custom	Number of households in selected areas implementing alternative income generating activities as a	Household member	2014	0	350	0	0	0	0	0		

		result of USG assistance											
IR 2: Citizens engagement in demanding for accountability and transparency in the management of forest and wildlife resources improved													
KRA 2.1: Citizens capacity to conduct SAM in NRM in targeted districts and villages improved													
	custom	Number of SAM team members demanding accountability and transparency in the management of forest and wildlife resources as a result of USG assistance	Citizens, project progress reports/ Village assembly/dialogue /theatre/village governments	2014	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	
	custom	Number of citizens participating in SAM in forest and wildlife resources as a result of USG assistance.	Project progress report/ participants signed sheets	2014	0	No target	0	0	0	0	0	N/A	
	custom	Number of people applying the acquired knowledge and/or practice	Project progress report	2014	0	50	150	0	150	0	0		

		management of natural resources as a result of USG assistance.											
	Custom	Number of citizens engaging in government oversight in the natural resources sector.	Survey	2014	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		

Annex I I: M&E training



Right photo: participants from MBOMIPA prepare group work presentation during the M&E training

Left photo: One participant from MUVIMA presenting group work during the M&E training

Annex III: Cartoon portraying the message of SAM in Kiswahili language



Annex IV: Picture showing LEAT staff and CBOs staff take part in the beekeeping training in Iringa at Gentle Hills Hotel.

